

# ASC Surge Strategies

## SURGE STRATEGIES AND CONSIDERATIONS – June, 2014

**Note: Strategies may not be appropriate for all incidents or all facilities**

SPACE – Surge Strategies for ASCs		
Objective: Increase the ability to take on disaster surge patients by using traditional space and repurposing use of other space		
#	Strategy/Implementation Steps	Regulatory and other considerations
1	<input type="checkbox"/> Cancel elective surgery cases so traditional patient care areas can be used for surge patient	
2	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase space by converting non-patient care areas into patient care areas for treatment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Break rooms</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Meeting rooms</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maintain break room or other assigned area for staff to rest</li> <li>- Ensure planning to maintain patient monitoring for nontraditional patient care areas</li> <li>- Ensure infection control procedures are maintained</li> <li>- Define appropriate types of patients for these areas</li> <li>- Identify an area(s) appropriate for triage</li> </ul>
3	<input type="checkbox"/> Partner with geographically close facilities - <i>for example: all suturing cases to one and reductions to another</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish communication with facilities that are not planning/able to participate in surge response independently</li> <li>- Consider physician offices</li> <li>- Written partner agreements are encouraged</li> </ul>
4	<input type="checkbox"/> Partner with geographically close acute care facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Acute care hospitals may need additional space. Consideration could be given to creating MOU for use of space.</li> </ul>
5	<input type="checkbox"/> Utilize parking lots or other outdoor space – <i>examples of use: registration, family waiting, triage, vaccinating.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Legal regulations and limitation for outdoor space</li> <li>- Weather and time of day</li> <li>- Security</li> <li>- Use of EZ ups</li> <li>- Consider traffic pattern issues for safety</li> </ul>
6	<input type="checkbox"/> Serve as charging stations – <i>for example: home care patients that need electricity to power their IV pumps, ventilators, etc.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A minimum of 2 employees would need to be present for safeguarding ASC not being used for medical care</li> <li>- Generally only 50% of outlets are linked to generator (2 red plugs per bed)</li> </ul>

**STAFF – Surge Strategies****Objectives: Maintain staffing levels and/or expand the workforce OR Support acute care facility**

#	Strategy/Implementation Steps	Regulatory and other considerations
7	<input type="checkbox"/> Call in off-duty staff and/or request current staff to remain <input type="checkbox"/> Assign and train staff to disaster roles before the event <input type="checkbox"/> Encourage staff to maintain gas level in vehicles to at least half full	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Employees may be employed at more than 1 location</li><li>- Identify which employees will be available to you during a disaster prior to the disaster</li><li>- Regularly update staff contact list</li><li>- Security – identify those who can be reassigned to security and provide training</li></ul>
8	<input type="checkbox"/> Partner with geographically close facilities that may have staff to assist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Establish communication with facilities that are not planning/able to participate in surge response independently</li><li>- Written partner agreements are encouraged</li></ul>
9	<input type="checkbox"/> Develop procedure to accept and assign volunteers <input type="checkbox"/> Accept volunteer staff requested through local jurisdiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Volunteer competencies are verified by local jurisdiction. <i>For example: for surgery cases only OR nurses accepted</i></li></ul>
10	<input type="checkbox"/> Provide just-in-time (JIT) training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- JIT training will be needed for outside staff received and possibly for regular staff who are unfamiliar with surge procedures</li></ul>
11	<input type="checkbox"/> Partner with geographically close acute health care facility to support their staffing if not using ASC as a treatment area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Hospital will need to have a plan to accept non-contracted staff</li><li>- Encourage staff to sign up as Disaster Healthcare Volunteer</li></ul>

**STUFF – Surge Strategies****Objective: Ensure adequate supplies and equipment**

#	Strategy/Implementation Steps	Regulatory and other considerations
12	<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure emergency supply of food, water and personal supplies for staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Recommend a 72hr supply</li><li>- Storage area for supplies</li><li>- Water can be stored outside if not in direct sunlight and should not be directly on concrete</li></ul>
13	<input type="checkbox"/> Utilize current inventory supplies, implementing conservation methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Maintain standards of care during conservation of supplies</li></ul>
14	<input type="checkbox"/> Contact local/non-traditional vendors for resupply <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend agreements with local merchants including pharmacies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Many healthcare entities utilize the same vendors and therefore supplies may be limited</li></ul>
15	<input type="checkbox"/> Partner with geographically close facilities that may have supplies that can be utilized	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Establish communication with facilities that are not planning/able to participate in surge response independently</li><li>- Consider physician's offices</li></ul>
16	<input type="checkbox"/> Partner with geographically close acute health care facilities that may need additional supplies to serve the patient surge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Consideration could be given to adding supplies to MOU with acute care hospital</li></ul>
17	<input type="checkbox"/> Contact LA County Department Operations (DOC) Center for medical supply assistance;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- After exhausting all traditional ways of securing medical supplies, LA County DOC for health may be contacted through the established resource requesting process</li></ul>
18	<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure enough fuel or power for generator use for up to 72 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Secure means for additional fuel to maintain generator</li><li>- Need CMS clarification on waiver/relaxing of regulations in continuing to use generator power after current case is completed for disaster patients</li><li>- Allowed up to 200 hours each year. Some relaxing of standards by AQMD for disasters</li></ul>
19	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintain at least 1 non-digital (analogue) phone line for use during a power outage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Digital phone systems will not work if power is out</li><li>- Can add a line attached to fax machine</li></ul>

**MODE OF OPERATIONS – Surge Strategies****Objective: To change operations by redirecting resources to provide services to surge patients**

#	Strategy/Implementation Steps	Regulatory and other considerations
20	<input type="checkbox"/> Extend operating hours	
21	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept minor, stable patients via BLS transport or from acute care facility	- Define types of patients facility is able to accept. Different scenarios should be considered e.g. earthquake vs. pan flu
22	<input type="checkbox"/> Update security plan to include specifics for surge	- Considerations should include situation of facility e.g. located within a building or free-standing
23	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold patients for longer than 23 hours if needed	-Need CMS clarification on waiver/relaxing of regulations
24	<input type="checkbox"/> Assist and house staff family members	- Family should bring own supplies
25	<input type="checkbox"/> Develop disaster policies and procedures outlining your response capabilities	- Determine what you can do for your community - See ASC disaster guide

